

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over JP '751 in view of *Ido*. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

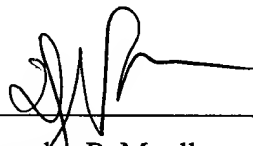
Ido does not suggest features found in present claim 1 for the reasons discussed above, and does not provide the teachings for which it is cited in the rejection. Thus, claim 1 and claims depending thereon are not obvious over JP '751 in view of *Ido*. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

Conclusion

It is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
(612) 332-5300

Date: September 16, 2003



Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300
DPM/JLH:gr/jh